

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
HOUSTON DIVISION

RONNIE PIERCE, AND §  
CASAS DE LOS INDIOS, L.P. §  
§  
V. § CIVIL ACTION NO. 4:17-CV-01413  
§  
THE STANDARD FIRE INSURANCE §  
COMPANY §

**DEFENDANT'S NOTICE OF REMOVAL**

TO THE HONORABLE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE:

COMES NOW, The Standard Fire Insurance Company, the defendant in the above entitled and numbered cause, and files this its notice of removal, and in support thereof would respectfully show unto this Honorable Court as follows:

**I.**  
**STATE COURT ACTION**

This case was initially filed in the 240th Judicial District Court of Fort Bend County, Texas. The state court action is styled: Cause No. 17-DCV-240631; Ronnie Pierce, and Casas De Los Indios, L.P. vs. The Standard Fire Insurance Company, in the 240th Judicial District Court of Fort Bend County, Texas.

**II.**  
**PARTIES**

The plaintiff, Ronnie Pierce, is, upon information and belief, an individual citizen and resident of Fort Bend County, Texas.

The plaintiff, Casas De Los Indios, L.P., is, a Texas limited partnership with its principal place of business in the State of Texas.

The defendant, The Standard Fire Insurance Company (“Standard Fire”), is a Connecticut corporation with its principal place of business in the State of Connecticut.

**III.  
JURISDICTION**

This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this cause, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332, because this is a civil action in which the matter in controversy exceeds the sum or value of \$75,000.00, exclusive of interest and costs, and is between citizens of different states. Accordingly, this cause is removable pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1441 and § 1446.

**IV.  
TIMELINESS**

Standard Fire was served with process and the plaintiff’s original petition on April 24, 2017. Thirty days have not elapsed since Standard Fire was served with process. Accordingly, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446, this notice of removal is timely and proper.

**V.  
ATTACHMENTS**

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(a), Local Rule 3, and Local Rule 81, the following exhibits are attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference for all purposes:

- a. Exhibit A: Civil action cover sheet;
- b. Exhibit B: Copies of all executed processes in the case, if any;
- c. Exhibit C: Copies of all pleadings asserting causes of action and all answers to such pleadings;
- d. Exhibit D: Copies of all orders signed by the state court judge, if any;
- e. Exhibit E: A copy of the state court docket sheet;
- f. Exhibit F: An index of matters being filed; and

g. Exhibit G: A list of all counsel of record, including addresses, telephone numbers, and parties represented.

**VI.  
CONDITIONS PRECEDENT**

The defendant has tendered the filing fee required by the Clerk of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Houston Division, along with this notice of removal. A copy of this notice of removal is also being filed in the 240th Judicial District Court of Fort Bend County, Texas, and all counsel of record are being provided with complete copies.

**PRAYER**

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the defendant respectfully requests that the above action, styled: Cause No. 17-DCV-240631; Ronnie Pierce and Casas De Los Indios, L.P. vs. The Standard Fire Insurance Company, in the 240th Judicial District Court of Fort Bend County, Texas, be removed to this Court.

Respectfully submitted,

ORGAIN BELL & TUCKER, LLP  
P O Box 1751  
Beaumont, TX 77704-1751  
(409) 838-6412  
(409) 838-6959 facsimile

/s/ Greg C. Wilkins  
Greg C. Wilkins  
State Bar No. 00797669  
gcw@obt.com  
Warren B. Wise  
State Bar No. 24075299  
wwise@obt.com

ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT,  
THE STANDARD FIRE INSURANCE  
COMPANY

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I do hereby certify that on the 8th day of May, 2017, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of Court using the CM/ECF system and also forwarded it to all known counsel of record by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested.

/s/ Greg C. Wilkins  
Greg C. Wilkins